



Icknield Community College

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Newsletter – 8 October 2021

Date	Event
wc 11 Oct'21	"B" Week
14 Oct'21	Nasal Flu and COVID vaccinations
14 Oct'21	Year 7 Information Evening
22 Oct'21	End of Term (Non-Uniform Day)
25-29 Oct'21	Half Term Holiday
1 Nov'21	Inset Day
2 Nov'21	School Resumes

World Teachers' Day

On behalf of the teaching staff, I would like to say big thank you to our Student Leadership Team for their thoughtful and kind post on World Teachers' Day. Your appreciation of your teachers is very clear here and, in turn, much appreciated!



Mat Hunter
Headteacher

Subject Coursemaps

A question I am sometimes asked in mentoring or review meetings by students is 'how can I see what we are about to study in (*name of subject*)?' The answer to this question is that we have a completely transparent approach to the way that we share our curriculum, and it's through the coursemaps that sit under the *subjects* tab of our website <https://www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk/> In order to view the contents of any course taught across all year groups, just hover over the name of the subject and then pick the year group you want to look at as they pop up to the side. Upon clicking on this link, you will be directed to a simple document that our subject leaders have designed to show you the broad content of the course across the academic year (KS4 subjects will also contain detailed examination information so you can see how the course is assessed); this is a coursemap.

These coursemaps can really inform conversations at home about learning, as well to provide students with the information to plan pre-reading and other research that they can carry out ahead of time so as to ensure that they begin new units with some of that learning already in the tank. On some occasions, they might also lead to perhaps a piece of shared family reading or research or even a trip to a museum or theatre. My main message though, is that by looking ahead of time and starting to at least think about some of the key learning that is on the horizon, students will engage more fully with the curriculum when those units arrive in school.

Matt Ford

Replacement test kits for students

We have had a delay in our delivery of replacement test kits for students. Consequently, we now expect the next box of kits to be distributed on Tuesday 12th October. Thank you so much for your ongoing support of the whole community's efforts to limit the spread of coronavirus. By ensuring your child tests twice weekly, we can limit this spread. Please also continue to log your results using the [links here](#).

James Barringer

GCSE History Summer 2022

Ofqual have introduced some changes to GCSE History for the summer 2022 examination. We now need to study only three of the four components in the specification. Our students will, therefore, be examined on the three units that they have already been introduced to, namely the Thematic study (Medicine in Britain), the Period study (American West) and the Modern depth study (Weimar and Nazi Germany).

Since we will no longer need to teach the fourth unit, we will now be able to spend more time working with our students on aspects that we covered during lockdown last year.

Jen Hicks

Changes to English GCSE 2022

As you will have heard, Ofqual announced their changes to the English Literature exams for 2022 which will affect Year 11 students when they sit their exams next summer. In summary, students will only be examined on 4 out of the 5 areas of the syllabus. Whilst Shakespeare and the 'Unseen' Poetry element remain compulsory for all students, we have been given the choice over the remaining topics. Therefore, we have decided that the other two elements students will sit are the 19th Century novel and the Modern Drama (*An Inspector Calls*) sections.

Chris McGinnity

Students will no longer be assessed on the Poetry Anthology.

Please note that there have been no changes to the English Language qualification.

For the December mock exam, students will be assessed on Macbeth and Unseen Poetry for Literature and they will sit a complete 'Paper Two' for Language. Students will be sent weekly revision tasks for each exam and all Year 11s are welcome to join us for revision after school on Wednesday or during lunchtime on Thursday.

I hope that provides some clarity and reassurance, but please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Chris McGinnity

Changes for AQA Art, Craft & Design GCSE 2022

Students will now not be given an externally set exam unit in January 2022 from the exam board. The GCSE will be marked on their coursework portfolio submission only. The table below sets out how students portfolios will be completed for submission under the new arrangements.

Coursework Submission Portfolio	Year 10 All Students	Year 11 Sept – Dec 2021 All Students	Year 11 Jan – Easter 2022 Following portfolio marking and feedback in December all students will either:
All students must submit a minimum of <u>two complete units</u> of work for marking at GCSE.	'Close Up'	'Being Human'	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Development and extension of 'Close Up' and 'Being Human' Units.2. Independent project unit on theme of students choice, agreed with their teacher meeting all Assessment Objectives criteria. <p>Additional technical skills workshops will be offered after school to all students to extend their portfolio submissions should they choose to attend.</p>

Year 11 Revision Guidance Goes Live!

On Friday 8th October the first instalment of the personalised weekly revision guidance is sent directly to the inbox of our Year 11 students. Over the next two months, there will be 9 instalments, sent out every Friday, consisting of revision activities, chosen by the teachers. Last year's Year 11 responded positively and I know, from talking to some of our current Year 11s, that this is a fantastic resource that takes the pressure off students deciding what and how to revise for their exams across their various subjects. I wish all our Year 11s the best possible success in their December mock exams – the revision starts now!

Adam Rickard

DofE Celebration and Launch evening

We would like to invite all students who have successfully completed their Bronze and Silver Awards to the DofE Celebration evening where they will receive their badges and certificates. We would also like to invite any year 10 students interested in starting their Bronze Award and any year 11 students interested in starting their Silver Award to find out more about the Awards. This celebration and launch event will be held on Tuesday 12th October at 6pm in the main hall.

Katie Scane

Music Ambassador

We are excited to announce a new opportunity for Student Leadership in our school. Applications are open for all those who would like to be considered for a Music Ambassador role at ICC.

Music Ambassadors will:

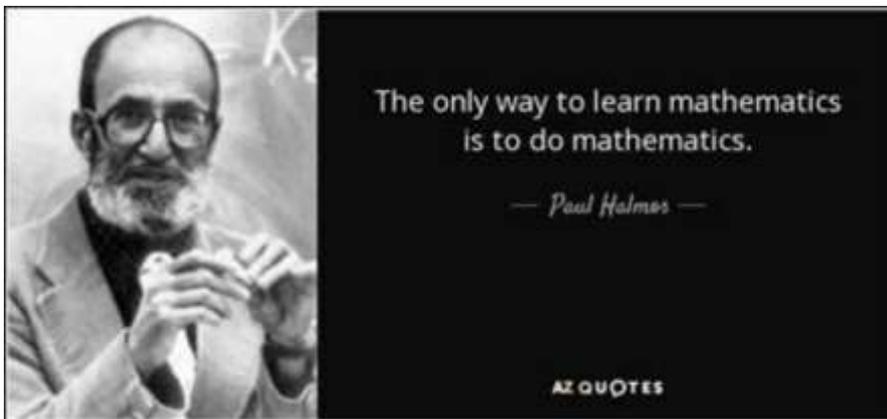
- LEAD our Music Department to grow and flourish
- MENTOR younger students to flourish as musicians
- CREATE new opportunities for music making, run a club, stage a concert!
- PARTICIPATE in events, such as concerts, celebrations and trips
- MAKE A DIFFERENCE see real gains made in the department and shared in the community.

Please write a mission statement with your name, tutor group and why you think you'd make a great Music Ambassador and deliver it to Ms de Sybel or Dr Legg by October 22nd.

Amy de Sybel and Robert Legg



Maths Online Platforms



There are lots of ways that students can practise Maths at home. Hegarty and Dr Frost are just two of them. I have put some videos together to show you how the online platforms work so you can support your child at home.

Hegarty part 1: <https://www.loom.com/share/1d4877ba33c142feaf80469f1399a08b>

Hegarty part 2: <https://www.loom.com/share/f6242503133f4694955f9093cdc83248>

Dr Frost : <https://www.loom.com/share/1a7f2497410d427fafa97445ca4032f9>

If students need support with using the online platforms, they can see their class teacher.

Hazel Carvel

Maths Problem of the Week

The Maths Problem of the Week and the solution to last week's problem are attached.

Nick Owen

National Poetry Day

National Poetry Day fell on Thursday 7th October this year and, whilst we didn't celebrate in the usual way, I wanted to share with you some examples of excellent poetry writing by some of our Year 9 Students. Produced as part of their Dystopian Writing unit of work, students were tasked with taking a line from the poem 'Zero Hour' and turning into something new. Please check out their work which is attached to this newsletter as I'm sure you'll agree they produced some wonderful pieces.

If you get the opportunity to check out the original poem, it is set in a world where there is a fuel crisis which is a timely coincidence.

As a reminder, budding writers (including poets) are welcome to join the Creative Writing Club which runs every Thursday in Room 18.

Christopher McGinnity

PE News

In a bumper edition of the PE News this week, read about:

- A new **Girls Rugby club** starting from next week
- A reminder for our upcoming **Sports Tour Launch**
- Some incredible **Gymnastic achievements** for a current and past student
- A return to league action for our **Y7 Hockey** team
- The **Y7 Rugby** team continuing their winning streak
- An early **football** fixture for the **Y8 Boys**, along with more **rugby** fixtures
- Good performances from our **Y8 Hockey** girls in their South Oxfordshire tournament
- Our **Y9 Hockey** team played against Gillotts, while the **Y9 Boys** had a mixed afternoon in their **rugby** ties
- A thrilling contest for our **Y10 Rugby** team
- **Y11 Rugby** team getting their season underway
- A reminder of **next week's fixtures**

Matt Mures

CareersNews

This weeks' CareersNews has a gentle reminder to Y10 parents/carers that I need the Parental Permissions form for Work Experience returned signed please. You will also find details on two job opportunities, one with the NHS and one with a local Country Store looking to recruit someone with a Level 3 qualification in Animal Management and much more...

Helen Richardson

Letters to Parents/Carers

The following letters have been sent out this week via ParentMail:

- Osmington Bay Fieldtrip – June 2022 – Year 8
- COVID Vaccination Session – 14 Oct 21 – All students
- Flu Vaccination Session – 14 Oct 21 – All students
- English National Opera: *Stayagraha* – 20 Oct 21 – Selected students

These letters can also be accessed on the school website:
<http://www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk/news-and-events/letters-to-parent>

Finance Office

COMMUNITY NEWS

Small-Group Weekly Online Maths Tuition

Looking for additional support with Maths? Look no further! Great quality, well-structured zoom maths tuition. We are now enrolling new students to start following October half term.

- Key stage 2
- Key stage 3
- GCSE Higher Tier: Saturday at 9.30am (2 slots available)

- GCSE Higher Tier: Saturday at 11.30am (2 slot available)
- GCSE Foundation tier is now fully booked, with a wait list

Please contact: mathstutorchinnor@outlook.com for more information and to reserve your slot. Limited spaces available.

This is a personal business and has no affiliation with Icknield Community College.

Adrian Thomas